

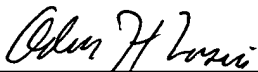
## REMARKS

Applicants are submitting this Preliminary Amendment to update the cross references to commonly owned co-pending U.S. Patent applications. A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith. No fee is due in connection with these submissions. However, if any fees are due, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-1818 for any insufficiency of payment.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Applicants look forward to early and favorable consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,  
BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

By   
Adam H. Masia  
Reg. No. 35,602  
P.O. Box 1135  
Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135  
Phone: (312) 807-4284

Dated: January 25, 2005